

them. When we talk about rationing, that is who is rationing. They tell the physicians what to do, they tell the hospitals what to do. It is time to take the insurance companies out of control and let the people have their right to pick their health care.

We have always said if you have a health care plan you like, keep it. We are trying to make sure that the people that the insurance companies will not insure or will drop get a chance to have health insurance. This is misplaced anger because these insurance companies are spending a million dollars a day to kill this bill. And their cheering squad is right over here to my left.

We have got to do this for the people. It is time for the people to have a choice in their health care.

#### HEALTH CARE REFORM

(Mr. JORDAN of Ohio asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, what part of “no” don’t the Democrats get? They were going to pass this health care bill last September and the American people said “no.” They were going to pass it in October and the American people said “no.” They said we’re going to get it done by Thanksgiving and the American people said “no.” Oh, we’re going to get it done by Christmas and the American people said “no.” We’re going to get it done by the State of the Union and the American people said “no.” And now they say, oh, we’re going to get it done before Easter, and the American people continue to say “no.” What part of “no” don’t they get?

The American people don’t want this big government takeover. They want real reform that will help them, their small businesses, and their families. That is what we should be doing, not taking this over by the government.

#### HEALTH CARE REFORM

(Mr. SCOTT of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Ladies and gentlemen, the question that we have got to ask ourselves this day is whose side are you on? Are you on the insurance companies’ side or are you on the American people’s side?

Now, ladies and gentlemen, the American people are in pain. There are 13,000 American people who are losing their insurance every day. There are American people who are being denied coverage because of a preexisting condition by insurance companies. Whose side are you on? There are senior citizens who, because of the doughnut hole, cannot have the level of treatment for their prescription drugs that they should have because of the insurance companies. The American people are sick and tired, quite honestly, of being sick and tired of our waiting.

Now, we have had arguments to say why don’t we start over. Ladies and gentlemen, the insurance companies aren’t starting over. They have already raised the rates in California by 30 percent just 2 weeks ago. The side to be on is the American people’s side.

#### HEALTH CARE REFORM

(Mr. YOUNG of Alaska asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Madam Speaker, we talk about reform—we’re for reform and you’re for reform. But 2,700 pages of what? 2,700 pages. The Bible only has 1,341 pages in it.

Let me give you an example on page 752 of this bill. Let me read it to you:

“Eligibility for non-traditional individuals with income below 133 percent of the Federal poverty level. (1) In general. Section 1902(a)(10)(A)(i) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396b(a)(10)(A)(i) is amended by striking “or” at the end of subclause (VI); by adding “or” at the end of subclause (VII); and by adding at the end the following new subclause: (VIII) who are under 65 years of age, who are not described in previous subclauses of this clause, and who are in families whose income (determined using methodologies and procedures specified by the Secretary in consultation with the Health Choices Commissioner) does not exceed 133 1/3 percent of the income official poverty line (as defined by the Office of Management and Budget, and revised annually in accordance with section 673(2) of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981).

Now, did anybody understand that?

#### HEALTH CARE REFORM

(Ms. PINGREE of Maine asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. PINGREE of Maine. Madam Speaker, I couldn’t be more pleased to have spent the last year and a few months working on this issue and to be here this month where we may get the opportunity to vote on this bill.

Because I want to tell you, Madam Speaker, what I hear from my constituents is get this bill done. When are you going to move forward on this? It is not a perfect bill. In fact, 50 percent of the doctors in my State wish we were passing a single-payer health care bill. But this is going to go a long way.

We have heard a lot of talk about process. When are we going to talk about the process of insurance companies? The process that denies my constituents coverage because of a preexisting condition. The times I hear from people who say their health care was cut off. And in my State, where Anthem Blue Cross wants to continually raise rates. You know, last year they asked for a 23 percent increase. When our insurance commissioner said no, you know what they did? They sued the State of Maine.

Well, I am ready to make sure that we are standing for our constituents, passing this health care bill, and doing away with the bad process of the insurance companies.

#### HEALTH CARE REFORM

(Mrs. MILLER of Michigan asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Madam Speaker, this week March Madness comes to college basketball teams as teams across America meet in the NCAA Tournament. And this week March Madness also comes to this House in the culmination of this health care debate.

The American people have watched as this bill has lumbered forward for the past year, and they have been outraged by both the substance and the process. The American people want jobs, Madam Speaker, but this bill is funded with job-killing tax increases.

Seniors need the protection of Medicare, but this bill cuts \$500 billion from that vital program. We all want freedom, of course, but this bill includes an unconstitutional mandate requiring individuals to purchase government-approved health care or face taxes, fines, or even jail.

The American people have been outraged at the vote buying epitomized by the Louisiana Purchase, the Cornhusker Kickback, and Gator Aid. And now the Democratic leadership is preparing to pass this bill without actually voting on it and deeming the bill passed through trickery.

It is time to end Washington’s version of March Madness and do what the American people are asking us to do, and that is to start over with a clean sheet of paper and look for real health care reform.

#### HEALTH CARE REFORM

(Mr. WILSON of Ohio asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WILSON of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I am from Ohio’s Sixth District, my district is in Appalachian Ohio, and we have a large population of seniors and retirees, so I’m truly interested in how this reform bill strengthens Medicare. If we don’t do anything, the Medicare trust fund is projected to be insolvent by 2016. Medicare takes care of our seniors, but it is high time that we take care of Medicare.

The health care reform bill keeps Medicare solvent for 9 more years. We extend that timeline by finally getting tough on the waste in Medicare. So as we make services better for seniors, we also fight fraud and waste.

The inspector general of the Health and Human Services Department has found a number of problems in Medicare with false claims for wheelchairs and orthotics, and overcharging for devices and prescription drugs. We need